

# Wyoming State Trails Inventory Instructions

The University of Wyoming Department of Agricultural Economics is preparing an inventory of trails in the State for use by the State of Wyoming Trail Program. The inventory will provide a database of trail information that can be used by government agencies, public libraries, and recreationists for information, trip planning, and management purposes.

The Inventory Data Sheets are designed to ensure that trail information from a variety of sources is comprehensive and compatible. There are three data sheets. The one labeled "Wyoming State Trail Inventory Data Sheet" is for regularly maintained recreation pathways typically used for travel on foot, bicycle, cross-country skis, horseback, snowmobile or on other small (less than 50 inches) motorized recreational vehicles. This sheet specifically excludes two-track trails used by larger motorized vehicles such as pickup trucks, or unmarked and non-maintained trails. Identification of mode of allowed travel is requested.

The sheet labeled "Wyoming State Recreational River System Inventory Data Sheet" is for water trails and seeks to identify public access points or take-outs. Again, these should be regularly maintained or identified locations open to the public.

The sheet labeled "Wyoming State 4WD Trail Inventory Data Sheet" is specifically for identified motor vehicle trails that are not maintained as roads. It excludes informal two-tracks that are not identified and mapped by the managing agency.

Specific instructions for the general data types follow. If an item does not seem to apply to a specific trail, leave the item blank. You may be contacted for clarification. For additional information contact Darla Pindell at (307) 634-3614.

The trail inventory data sheet number will be assigned by the University.

The administrative unit is the sub-unit of the managing agency, such as the Medicine Bow Forest, the Great Divide Resource Area, or the City Parks Division.

The trail name and number are the agency designations.

The administering agency is the specific governmental unit responsible for managing the resource, such as the Forest Service, Park Service, BLM, State Parks, Game and Fish, or City of Laramie.

The location of the trail head (and river access point) is requested by Township/Range/Section, and nearest town. Identification of appropriate agency maps and USGS maps, and a narrative of the trail head for beginning and end is also requested. Please provide the information that is available and the University will use maps and other information to complete any missing information.

It is requested that trails considered part of a system, such as the Continental Divide

Trail, be identified as such. In many cases, the system will be contained in an administrative unit and all relevant information will be available. If the system extends beyond the unit, please provide the information that is available.

Trail length and elevation range should be based on agency information.

Trail setting should indicate the general surroundings over the length of the trail.

Seasons of use should indicate only those seasons a trail is considered open and passable by allowed means.

Acceptable uses includes a general list. If there are additional identified uses, or specific requirements of use, they can be listed in the miscellaneous section.

The level of management is an approximation of the frequency of visitation to the trail for official purposes during the year. If the trail is indicated as groomed for snow use, please also note the frequency of grooming in winter months in the miscellaneous section.

The spring white water rating for river systems should be based on the system listed below.

Class I: Easy. Fast moving water with riffles and small waves. Few obstructions, all obvious and easily missed with little training. Risk to swimmers is slight; self rescue is easy.

Class II: Novice. Straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels which are evident without scouting. Occasional maneuvering may be required, but rocks and medium sized waves are easily missed by trained paddlers. Swimmers are seldom injured and group assistance, while helpful is seldom needed.

Class III: Intermediate. Rapids with moderate, irregular waves which may be difficult to avoid and which can swamp an open canoe. Complex maneuvers in fast current and good boat control in tight passages or around ledges are often required; large waves or strainers may be present but are easily avoided. Strong eddies and powerful current effects can be found, particularly on large-volume rivers. Scouting is advisable for inexperienced parties. Injuries while swimming are rare; self rescue is usually easy but group assistance may be required to avoid long swims.

Class IV: Advanced. Intense, powerful but predictable rapids requiring precise boat handling in turbulent water. Depending on the character of the river, it may feature large, unavoidable waves and holes or constricted passages demanding fast maneuvers under pressure. A vast reliable eddy turn may be needed to initiate maneuvers, scout rapids, or rest. Rapids may require "must" moves above dangerous hazards. Scouting is necessary the first time down. Risk of injury to swimmers is moderate to high and water conditions may make self-rescue difficult. Group assistance for rescue is often essential but requires

practiced skills. A strong Eskimo roll is highly recommended.

Class V: Expert. Extremely long, obstructed, or very violent rapids which expose a paddler to above average endangerment. Drops may contain large, unavoidable waves and holes or steep, congested chutes with complex demanding routes. Rapids may continue for long distances between pools, demanding a high level of fitness. What eddies exist may be small, turbulent, or difficult to reach. At the high end of the scale, several of these factors may be combined. Scouting is mandatory but often difficult. Swims are dangerous and rescue is difficult even for experts. A very reliable Eskimo roll, proper equipment, extensive experience, and practiced rescue skills are essential for survival.

Class VI: Extreme. One grade more difficult than Class V. These runs often exemplify the extremes of difficulty, unpredictability, and danger. The consequences of errors are very severe and rescue may be impossible; for teams of experts only, at favorable water levels, after close personal inspection and taking all precautions. This class does not represent drops thought to be un-runable, but may include rapids which are only occasionally run.

# Wyoming State Trail Inventory Data Sheet

Trail Inventory Data Sheet # \_\_\_\_\_

Administrative Unit

Date & Initial

1. Trail Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Trail Number: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Administering Agency: Bureau of Land Management

4. Location where trail starts:

Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Nearest Town: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Map: \_\_\_\_\_

USGS Maps (Quadrangle Names): \_\_\_\_\_

6. Trail Starts At: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Trail Ends At: \_\_\_\_\_

8. If part of a trail system, Name of System: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Miles: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of trails this trail crosses: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Trail Length: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Elevation Range: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

11. Trail Setting (Check one):

☐ Urban (cities and towns)

☐ Rural (areas surrounding cities and towns)

☐ Natural (roaded)

☐ Primitive (roadless)

12. Seasons of Use (Check all applicable):

☐ Summer

☐ Fall

☐ Winter

☐ Spring

13. Accepted Uses (Check all Applicable):

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking for pleasure | <input type="checkbox"/> ATV (all-terrain vehicles)           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jogging or running   | <input type="checkbox"/> Off road motorcycling                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day hiking           | <input type="checkbox"/> Ungroomed trail cross country skiing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpacking          | <input type="checkbox"/> Groomed trail cross country skiing   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting access       | <input type="checkbox"/> Ungroomed trail snowmobile riding    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding     | <input type="checkbox"/> Groomed trail snowmobile riding      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycling            | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain biking                      |

14. Level of Management (frequency of patrol or maintenance work per year): \_\_\_\_\_

15. Miscellaneous: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Wyoming State Recreational River System Inventory Data Sheet

River Inventory Data Sheet # \_\_\_\_\_

Administrative Unit	Date & Initials
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1. River Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Administering Agency: Bureau of Land Management

3. Total Miles Administered: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Location at first maintained public access:

Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Next access: Miles from previous access: \_\_\_\_\_

Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Next access: Miles from previous access: \_\_\_\_\_

Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Next access: Miles from previous access: \_\_\_\_\_

Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_

(If more maintained public access points exist, please continue on the back.)

5. Nearest Town: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Agency Map: \_\_\_\_\_

USGS Maps (Quadrangle Names): \_\_\_\_\_

7. Elevation at first listed access point: \_\_\_\_\_, at last access point: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Spring White Water Rating (western rating): \_\_\_\_\_ (See instructions)

9. Miscellaneous: \_\_\_\_\_

# Wyoming State 4WD Trail Inventory Data Sheet

Trail Inventory Data Sheet # \_\_\_\_\_

Administrative Unit	Date & Initials
1. Trail Name: _____	
2. Trail Number: _____	
3. Administering Agency: Bureau of Land Management	
4. Location where trail starts:	
Township: _____ Range: _____ Section: _____	
5. Nearest Town: _____ County: _____ State: _____	
Agency Map: _____	
USGS Maps (Quadrangle Names): _____	
6. Trail Starts At: _____	
7. Trail Ends At: _____	
a. If part of a trail system, Name of System: _____	
Total Miles: _____ Number of trails this trail crosses: _____	
9. Trail Length: _____	
10. Elevation Range: _____ to _____	
11. Seasons of Use (Check all applicable):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Summer <input type="checkbox"/> Fall <input type="checkbox"/> Winter <input type="checkbox"/> Spring	
12. Level of Management (frequency of patrol or maintenance work per year): _____	
13. Miscellaneous: _____	

If you would like access to this database, please complete the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_